

THE SILENT VICTIMS OF WAGE THEFT

Following a massive advocacy campaign, we at the VICPP fought for and won Virginia's new anti-wage theft laws. That said, these laws have been just the first step in earning back the lost wages of victims. This post tells the stories of a few victims of wage theft in the hopes that you may be encouraged to fight for your right to a fair, legal wage.



MS. E.

Ms. E. was classified as an independent contractor, working for a counseling company - and doing all the work of a full-time employee. Her boss held her pay for over a month, still expecting overtime. With her husband on an organ transplant list, she was her family's only income earner. This wage theft almost cost her their house. With new laws, she went to court, and took back her pay.

MS. G.

Ms. G. worked with her husband at an Italian restaurant and decided to invest \$25,000 together to become part owners of this restaurant. Several months later, Ms. G. and her husband found that they were barred from decision-making meetings, and then were fired from even working at the business. After contacting VICPP, we brought Ms. G. to a lawyer, and a judge awarded her the lost \$25,000.

MR. WALKER

Mr. Walker worked at a local café, until the pandemic hit, and his manager decided not to renew the café's contract, leaving Mr. Walker without a job and around \$16,000 in unpaid checks. Through contacting VICPP, he was able to get in contact with a law firm and is currently working through the courts to take back his \$16,000 plus damages.